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A Particular

A C C O U N T

Of the Taking

Cape B R E T O N

From the *French*, by

Admiral *Warren*, and Sir *William Pepperell*,

The 17th of *June*, 1745.

With a Description of the Place and Fortifications;
the Loss it will be to the *French* Trade, and the Ad-
vantage it will be to *Great Britain* and *Ireland*: With
the Articles of the Capitulation of Fort *Louisbourg*.

By *PHILIP DURELL*, Esq; Capt. of His Majesty's Ship *Sutherland*.

To which is added,

A LETTER from an Officer of Marines to his Friend in *London*,
giving an Account of the Siege of *Louisbourg*, and a Description
of the Town, Harbour, Batteries, Number of Guns, &c.

A L S O

The happy Situation of that Country; and an Account of M. *Chamhon*, Governor
of *Louisbourg* being laid in Irons for surrendering it: In a LETTER from a
Gentleman in *London*, to a Merchant in the West of *England*.



L O N D O N:

Printed for W. BICKERTON, in the *Temple Exchange, Fleetstreet*, 1745.

[Price Sixpence.]

A C C O U N T

Of the Taking

CAPE BRETON

From the French, by

Lately Publish'd,

(Price Six-pence each)

I. The IMPORTANCE of CAPE-BRETON to the British Nation; humbly represented by ROBERT AUCHMUTY, Judge of His MAJESTY's Court of Vice-Admiralty in New-England.

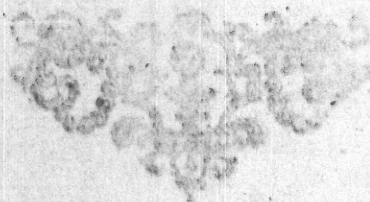
II. CONSIDERATIONS on the State of the British Fisheries, and their Consequence to Great-Britain; with PROPOSALS for their Security, as was humbly offered to His MAJESTY's Ministers.

To which is added,

A LETTER from an Officer of Marines to his Friend in London, giving an Account of the Siege of Louisbourg, and a Description of the Town, Harbour, Batteries, Number of Guns, &c.

A L S O

The happy Situation of that County; and an Account of M. Gouard, Governor of Louisbourg, being laid in form for his Excellency in a LETTER from a Gentleman in England, to a Merchant in the West of England.



L O N D O N

Printed for W. Bickart, in the Temple Exchange, Fleetstreet, 1742.

[Price Sixpence]



A LETTER from Philip Durell, Esq; Capt. of his Majesty's Ship *Superbe*, &c.

Dear Sir,

TH E great Hurry I am in to finish some Plans of *Louisbourg*, prevents my writing so fully as I could wish, to give you an Account of this important Place. Just as I was ready to sail with the Mast-Ships from *New-England* to return Home, I received Orders from Commodore *Warren* to join him off this Harbour; which Commands were so agreeable, that I made all Dispatch possible, and join'd him in a few Days. During the Time of our cruising here, Mr. *Warren* disposed so well of his Ships, that we cut off all Communications by Sea; which distressed them so much, that they at last were left with but very little Ammunition; which obliged them to capitulate the 17th of June. They delivered the Keys of the Town to Mr. *Warren*, agreeable to Articles specified in the Capitulation, saying, That if it had not been for the Ships, the Land

* I. That if your own Vessels shall be found insufficient for the Transportation of your Persons and Effects to *France*, we will provide such a farther Number of Vessels as may be sufficient for that Purpose: Also any Provisions necessary for the Voyage, that you cannot furnish yourselves with.

II. That all the Commission Officers belonging to the Garrison, and the Inhabitants of the Town, may remain in their Houses with their Families, and enjoy the free Exercise of their Religion, and no Person shall be suffered to misuse or molest any of them, till such Time as they can conveniently be transported to *France*.

III. That the Non-Commission Officers and Soldiers shall immediately, upon the Surrender of the Town and Fortrefs, be put on board some of his Britannick Majesty's Ships till they can also be transported to *France*.

IV. That all your Sick and Wounded shall be taken tender Care of, in the same Manner with our own.

V. That the Commander in Chief now in the Garrison shall have liberty to send off two covered Waggon, to be inspected only by one Officer of ours, that no warlike Stores may be contained therein.

VI. That if there are any Persons in the Town or Garrison, which you shall desire may not be seen by us, they shall be permitted to go off masked.

The above we do consent to, and promise on your Compliance with the following Conditions, viz.

I. That the Surrender and due Performance of every Part of the aforesaid Premises be made and compleated as soon as possible.

II. That as a Security for the punctual Performance of the same, the Island Battery, or one of the Batteries of the Town, shall be delivered, with the Artillery and warlike Stores thereunto belonging, into the Possession of his Britannick Majesty's Troops, before Six of the Clock this Afternoon.

III. That

Land Forces would never have been in Possession of the Place. We have likewise taken the *Vigilante*, a sixty-four Gun-Ship, which was bound in here. If she had got in, I believe she would have put them in such a Condition, as to prevent any Fleet in the World's coming in the Town. For the Forts are as regular, as any in *Europe*; so that, if it is supplied with a sufficient Quantity of Men, and Warlike Stores, I believe it will be hereafter impregnable. It has cost the *French* to fortify it, as it now is, two Millions *Sterling*. This I am inform'd of by a *French* Engineer, who has been employed here several Years. I really think this is the greatest Loss the *French* could meet with: For this is as much the Key of *North-America*, as *Gibraltar* is the Key of the *Streights*; besides their *West* and *East-India* Trade used to come here, to wait for a Convoy; so that now we have a very good Chance to stop them with our private Cruizers, when they return Home. Its being taken is likewise the Ruin of *Canada* and their Fishery, which was better to them than a Golden Mine. In short, it is the Loss of the greatest Branch of Trade they had. We have taken five or six Merchant-Ships laden with Wine and Provisions for this Place; and we hope many more will fall into our Net, being well assur'd they can never suspect in *France* that this Place is taken. It is certainly the strongest fortified Harbour I ever saw. There is mounted in the different Forts One hundred and forty-six Guns, most of which are forty-two Pounders; they had five thirteen Inch-Mortars, and two of nine: They had likewise sixty-four Swivel Guns mounted, in order to annoy the Boats in landing. In all the Fortifications together there are Two hundred and fifteen Embrasures; so that there is Room to mount sixty-nine Guns more. Undoubtedly the taking of this Place will greatly redound to Mr. *Warren's* Honour. He certainly very much deserves it, being an extraordinary good and discreet Officer. He has been pleased to make Captain *Tideman*, who was his Captain, change with me, so that I am Captain of the *Superbe* at present; he has been desirous of this Change on Account of keeping me here, to assist him in putting the Harbour and other Matters to Rights. I shall soon have a compleat Survey of the Harbour and Forts, the which I will let you have enclosed by the next Opportunity. I send you now, by Captain *Mountague*, a Plan which I have taken; tho' it is not a Survey, it is very near exact. I am with great Esteem,

Dear Sir,

Superbe, in Louisbourg

Harbour, June 20.

1745.

Your most obliged Humble Servant, and Kinsman.

PHILIP DURELL.

III. That his Britannick Majesty's Ships of War, now lying before the Port, shall be at Liberty to enter the Harbour of *Louisbourg*, without any Molestation, as soon after Six of the Clock this Afternoon, as the Commander in Chief of the said Ships shall think fit.

IV. That none of the Officers, Soldiers, nor Inhabitants in *Louisbourg*, who are Subjects of the *French* King, shall take up Arms against his Britannick Majesty, or any of his Allies, until after the Expiration of the full Term of Twelve Months from this Time.

V. That all the Subjects of his Britannick Majesty, who are now Prisoners with you, shall be immediately delivered up to us.

P. WARREN. W. PEPPERRELL.

It having been desired by the Governor of *Louisbourg* that his Troops might march out of the Garrison with their Arms and Colours, and to be then delivered to Commodore *Warren* and Mr. *Pepperrell*, till the said Troops Arrival in *France*, and to be then returned to them, the same was consented to.

Copy

Copy of a LETTER from an Officer of Marines,

Louisbourg, in the Island of Cape Breton, June 21st, 1745.

Dear Sir,

HAVING this Opportunity of writing by the Express coming to England of our taking the famous City of *Louisbourg* from the *French*, I thought it would not be amiss to give you an Account of the Siege; which is as follows: On the last Day of *April* the *Americans* from *New-England* landed Four thousand Men in this Island, about three Miles from the City. On the 1st and 2d of *May* in the Night they erected a *Fascine Battery* of Nine Guns, and the Night after took a Battery of Thirty Guns, Forty-two Pounders, by Storm; an *Indian* entered the Place first, then the *Americans* being encouraged to follow, drove the *French* out, who being very much surprized at this sudden Attempt, which they had not the least Intelligence of, it being carried on with so great a Secrecy. With the *Fascine Battery*, and one they raised after of Six Guns near the Town's Light-house, and the Battery taken from the *French*, which did most Execution, on the 4th of *May* they began to fire very hotly, and continued until the Capitulation. We had a Fleet of Six Men of War before the Town, who waited only for our Arrival with Four Ships of us, to attack the Town. As soon as we joined the Fleet with our Ships, which was the 12th of *June*, we made in all Ten Sail, Five of Forty Guns, one of Fifty, and Four of Sixty Guns, besides a *French* Man of War of Sixty Guns, called the *Vigilance*, which the Fleet took coming in there the latter End of *May*. If this Ship had got into the Harbour we should never have taken the Place, the having Ammunition on board for the Garrison, near one thousand Barrells of Powder, which the Town was in want of, and one of the greatest Occasions of their surrendering. It was agreed on by *Commodore Warren*, who commanded in Chief, and the rest of the Captains, to attack the Town the 14th Instant; but the Wind not proving fair to go into the Harbour, it was deferred, and on *Sunday* the 16th, the Wind coming fair, a Signal was made to go in, and every Thing put in Readiness to bombard the Town; when, just upon our Entrance into the Harbour, the *French* sent out a Flag of Truce to capitulate, which was agreed on. The Inhabitants are to march out of the Town with what belongs to them; the Merchants and King's Stores not to be meddled with; the Soldiers to have their Arms delivered to them, as soon as they arrive in *France*: They are put on board a Ship to be sent thither; the Number of them was seven hundred; in the Town, five hundred *French* and two hundred *Swiss*, all poor looking Men, not to compare to our Marines. The Governor and Intendant of the Town insisted that our Forces should enter the Town, and not the *Americans*, whom they do not like; and on the 17th Instant all the Marines in the Fleet were sent ashore, and we with them, and took Possession of the Town and Garrisons, where I am afraid we shall continue, which will be very disagreeable, as most of the Houses, which are two hundred and fifty, are demolished, or very much shattered, which makes Lodging very uncomfortable. Here was a fine Church, which is intirely destroyed by the Shot. This Country is very cold, being far to the Northward, about Ten Leagues South from *Newfoundland*, and Two hundred Leagues from *Boston*. It is a Country that abounds with Fir, and inhabited by a great many *Indians*, who used to trade with the *French*. This Town is exceeding well fortified, and much stronger than any

any Place in *England*; it will require Three thousand disciplin'd Men to defend it: For the Occasion of the *French* giving it up was for want of stronger Force, and short of Ammunition; for their Guns they could not half man. As here's such a strong Garrison and Batteries about the Town, I have sent you a List of them, so you may know the Strength of it.

The 1st, is a circular Battery of Sixteen Guns, Twenty-four Pounders, at the West Gate.

2d, Is opposite to that a Battery of Six Brass ditto, Six Pounders, taken from the *English* some Time ago.

3d, Is the North East Battery, on which is Thirteen Guns, Forty-two Pounders.

4th, The inclos'd Bastion where the Governor lives, Twelve ditto, twelve Pounders.

5th, Within the Town, Forty-seven Guns, Twenty-four Pounders.

All these Guns are mounted on the Walls of the Town, which is garrison'd round.

6th, The Island Battery mounted Forty Guns, facing the Entrance of the Harbour.

7th, The Grand ditto, mounted Thirty Guns, Forty-two Pounders. This the *Americans* took, which faces the Town and Harbour.

The Number in all is — 164 Guns, beside seven Mortars very large, and a great Number of Swivel Guns at the Entrance of the Town. Here is a fine large Harbour, that Thirty or Forty Sail of Ships may ride in with Safety, and is always ready to go to Sea, as there is only a small Neck of Land that shades the Harbour from the Sea. The *French* had a very great Trade here, and in this Part of the World, which will now be entirely destroyed. This Place will be of great Advantage both to *Old* and *New-England*, as they will have the Cod Fishery to themselves, which the *French* made very great Advantages of, and caused a great Trade by it, and now they have no Harbour left for their Ships to put in at from the Banks of *Newfoundland*. This is the greatest Affair we have done this War, and will turn out to the greatest Advantage to *England*.

It is rumoured amongst the Marine Officers here, that all of us, on this Expedition, will have Preferment, and will have Commissions from the General of the *Americans*, tho' he has only a Commission from the Governor of *Boston*, but *Commodore Warren* will use his Interest to get them prefer'd by the King, which if it should so happen, it would be a very great Joy to us all. I am very well, and have been so ever since I came out: And if we do stay all Winter here, I hope I shall do as the rest of them ashore.

I am, dear Sir,

Your sincere Friend, &c.

P.S. It is imagined *Commodore Warren* will be made Governour of this Place.

Please to excuse Haste, as the Express sails to-day.

A Third

A Third LETTER by another Hand,

Dated London, August 8. 1745.

S I R,

IN Order to confirm the exact and particular Account given us by the worthy and ingenious Author of the Letter from *Cape-Breton*, Captain *Durell*, we shall add some general Observations concerning the Situation of that Place.

This Island is of a Triangular Form, and lies to the South-East of *Newfoundland*, to the North-East of *New-England*, to the full East of *New-France* and *Acadia*, and full West of the *Azores*, otherwise called the *Western Islands*.

It is placed in the Middle of the Northern Temperate Zone, and therefore cannot be a very unwholesome Climate.

In the Middle of the Eastern Coast there is a most convenient Harbour, capable of receiving a very large Number of Ships; and, if we are rightly inform'd, the *French* had not less than between Thirteen and Fourteen hundred Ships there every Year to carry on their Fishing Trade, which did not produce less than Fourteen or Fifteen hundred thousand Pound *per Annum*.

We are inform'd, that the Commanding Officer who was ordered to defend *Fort-Louisbourg*, when he had surrendered it to Commodore *Warren* and General *Pepperrell*, retired into the Town of *Cape-Breton*: Where, as soon as he arrived, he went to acquaint the *French* Governor of what had pass'd. As soon as the Governor had received that Commanding Officer's Account, he ordered him immediately to be put in Chains, for making so little Resistance, and delivering up that Fort to the *English* upon such easy Terms.

This important Conquest is owing not only to the Bravery of the Commanding Officers, but in a great Measure to General *Pepperrell*, who is an eminent Merchant in *New-England*, and has generously expended upwards of Ten thousand Pounds out of his own Pocket upon this Occasion.

So much for *Cape-Breton*.

The greatest News we have at Home is, That a great Man in *S—d*, no less than the *D—* of *P—*, was put under an Arrest, but had found out some Means or other to make his Escape, and has actually put it in Execution. We are also just now inform'd, that about sixty *W—ts* are actually sent down to *S—d* to apprehend so many *N—n* and *G—n* in that Country. Time will soon inform us whether this be true or not. The whole Scheme of this Invasion appears to most People of Sense to be a very absurd one: Since very few Persons especially Men of Fortune, will care to venture their All upon so precarious a Foundation, or be willing to fight against their Country with a Halter about their Necks. I am,

S I R,

Your most Humble Servant.

Extract

Extract of a Letter from on board a Man of War at
Louisbourg.

20th June, 1745.

Dear Mother,

WE are now near the Coast of *America*, and have been some Time, laying Siege by Sea and Land to a strong and well-fortified Town called *Louisbourg*, in the Island of *Cape-Bréton*, a Place belonging to the *French*, which we now, through the Blessing of *GOD*, are the Masters of, and are lying at Anchor in the Harbour. About six Weeks ago we had a smart Engagement with a large Sixty-Gun *French* Ship, called the *Vigilance*, which we fought, and immediately took, and had only one Man mortally wounded. Besides this, we have taken several more Prizes. We expect to be home in a very short Time, but cannot acquaint you when. I am until Death,

Dear Mother,

Yours, &c.

WM. NICHOLS.



